

Proclamation

WHEREAS, diabetes is a serious, costly, and increasingly common chronic disease; and

WHEREAS, diabetes affects nearly 18.2 million Americans and contributes to over 200,000 deaths a year; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is a disease that accounts for 1.3 million new cases per year for person aged 20 years and older; and

WHEREAS, diabetes affects approximately 280,588 adult citizens in the state of Louisiana and contributes to over 1,700 deaths a year in Louisiana, which causes Louisiana to have the highest death rate due to diabetes in the nation; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the 6th leading cause of death in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the leading cause of blindness, kidney failure, leg and foot amputations, pregnancy complications, and death related due to flu and pneumonia; and

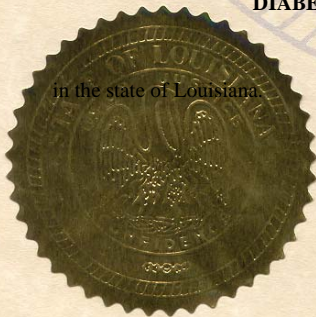
WHEREAS, diabetes is linked to heart disease and stroke and 65 percent of eaths among people with diabetes are due to heart disease and stroke; and

WHEREAS, diabetes disproportionately affects the elderly and the African- American populace in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, diabetes is a complex disease that requires greater recognition and understanding to ensure that individuals in Louisiana and all Americans with diabetes are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the state of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim November 2004, as

DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH



in the state of Louisiana.

Attest By
The Governor

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Secretary of State

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 10th day of November
A.D., 2004.*

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor of Louisiana